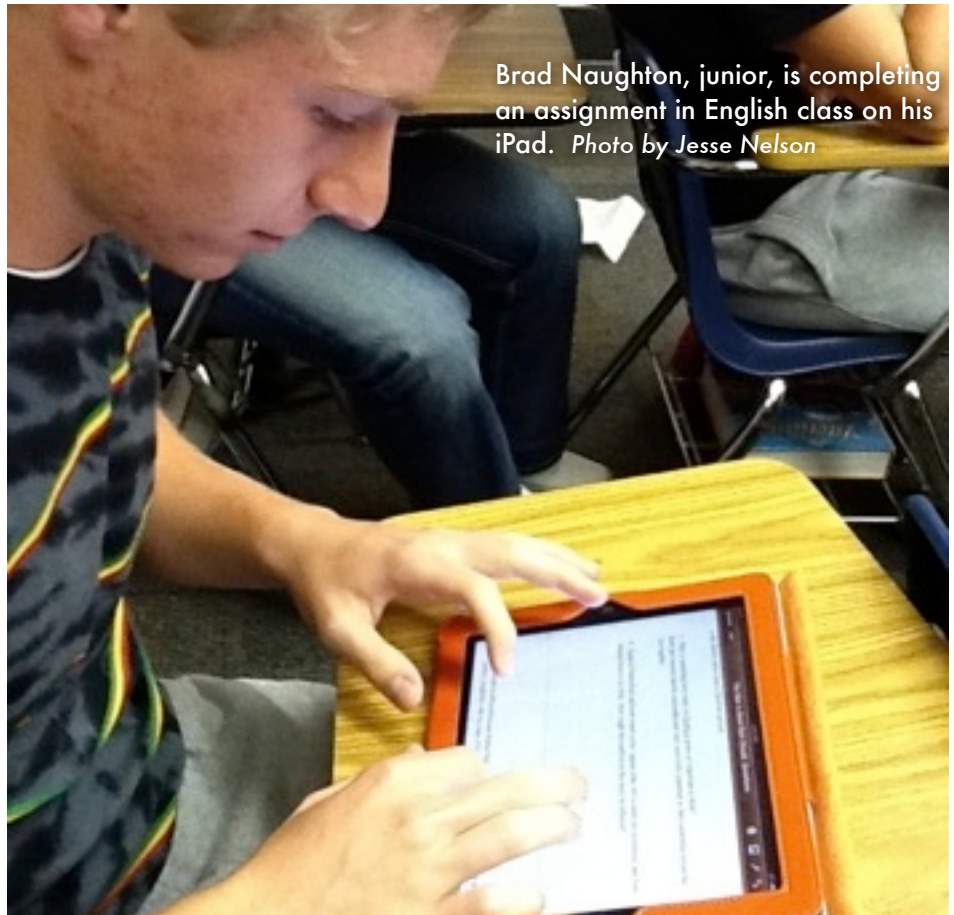


SEPTEMBER 2011

Calhoun Chronicle



Brad Naughton, junior, is completing an assignment in English class on his iPad. Photo by Jesse Nelson

An "Apple" a day keeps ignorance away

by Jesse Nelson
Co-Editor

It's a new school year and that means there are new changes, including, the addition of the iPads as a teaching aid.

The junior class is the pilot group with the iPads and is the only class that has them for the first semester. Next semester the rest of the high school will receive them, assuming all goes well with the juniors.

"The rest of the students will most likely get them if the system continues to move smoothly," says Mr. Green.

Mr. Green had a lot of work to do before the school year to prepare for the iPads. He had to ensure that students will be responsible with the devices and worked a lot with our technology coordinator, Mr. Dalton, to restrict students to only a handful of approved apps.

To prepare for the iPad integration, the staff had two-full day training sessions this summer. In addition, they also had to prepare lesson plans to incorporate the iPads into the classroom.

Making an English literary term rap using Garage Band was

very creative," comments junior Josh Pace.

The addition of the iPads is a huge leap forward into the ever-expanding world of technology.

Jordan Kann, junior, says, "They are a good learning tool and will hopefully be a good investment."

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**We have
PODCASTS!!**

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a student-run publication



2011

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New Faces from New Places

By Ali Boyd

Staff Writer

Fort Calhoun Schools welcomes many new faces this school year such as Eric Stevens, Jonas Kessler and Mackenzie Carlson; all from different, interesting places.

Senior Eric Stevens recently moved from Stuttgart, Germany, where his family was living on a military base. He enjoys many things about Fort Calhoun Schools.

"I enjoy the small environment and the people here," says Stevens.

He also is involved in school activities. "So far I have enjoyed playing football."

Jonas Kessler, junior, is also a new student from Germany. However, he is an exchange student; his accent is a dead giveaway.

"What I enjoy most about being an exchange student is meeting all the new people," Kessler says. "A big difference between Fort Calhoun and my school in Germany is that here everyone knows everyone, and there is a lot of school spirit."

While in America, Kessler says he wants to "improve my English, learn about the country, and meet new friends. Most importantly, I want to have a good time."

Meet Mackenzie Carlson, a freshmen who is from Elkhorn Valley High School in Tilden, Neb. She enjoys Fort Calhoun and the different environment along with it.

"I like that it is similar to Tilden and also that it is close to the city," she says.

Carlson is an athlete and participates on Fort Calhoun's volleyball team. She played on volleyball and basketball leagues at Elkhorn Valley High School. She has also made some good friends here.

Flooding in Fort Calhoun

By Evan Melbourne

Staff Writer

Flooding hit Fort Calhoun this summer, which left many homeless and faced with property damages, as well as jeopardized a nuclear power plant of being under water.

Despite water surrounding several nuclear power plant buildings after a barricade broke, Omaha Public Power District officials said the plant remains safe. It can be seen from a distance that it has become an island.

In addition, the town of Fort Calhoun is facing months of flooding. Stretching from corn field to neighborhood houses, the destructive waters rein of terror still remains.

Senior James Duda, son of local investors and land owners, says, "I don't know how many of our fields are under water, but I do know there is a lot." Fortunately, Duda's house was not affected.

Junior John Heinz and his family, however, are not so lucky. Heinz has been out of his house since flood waters struck and is still not sure whether or not they will be living there again.

The water's receding more everyday but could rise at any moment, leaving everyone in the surrounding flood areas on the edge of their seats.

It has become a waiting game now, for one swift rise of the Missouri River could bring another trial with waves of emotional, financial, and property destruction to the Heinz family and the whole town of Fort Calhoun once again.

Elementary patient with updates

By Amanda O'Keefe

Staff Writer

A new office, new upstairs bathrooms, six new classrooms and a new parking-lot/ drop off area are some of the changes made to the Fort Calhoun Elementary School.

"The changes are wonderful. It actually looks like an elementary school," says Mrs. Hallberg, second grade teacher. Some of her favorite changes are the office area, parking-lot/drop off area, the new colors in the halls and that the students don't have to cross the street to get to the playground.

Although there are many communication challenges, Mrs. Axtell, elementary principal, says, "The staff seems to be doing very well adapting to the changes."

Axtell's favorite change is the "fresh new look" for the building's interior and exterior.

The library is also one of the renovated spaces in the school. Mrs. Homolka, librarian, says her favorite part is that there is a wall now to block the noise. Even though the construction is not finished yet, she thinks that the changes look amazing so far.

"The students and staff seem to be doing well with adapting to the new changes and the construction not being finished," says Mr. Johnson, superintendent. "When all the construction is finished, the entire building will look amazing."

The elementary needed the renovation. "We are getting so many students from out of the Fort Calhoun area and with what we had before, we wouldn't be able to fit all the students in the building," says Johnson.

Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Axtell anticipate the renovation to be completed by end of September to the beginning of October.



Above: Ms. Homolka helps students in the elementary school's newly renovated library. Photo by Amanda O'Keefe

Right: The team huddles to go over a play during the Roncalli game. Below: The defensive line prepares to stop Roncalli. Photos by Connor Dethlefs



Football: Slow start, but gaining wins

by Connor Dethlefs

Staff Writer

Football is in the air, and our Pioneers clashed helmets with the Ashland-Greenwood Bluejays for the 2011 season's first game on Sept. 2.

The game started out competitively, with Ashland up 10-7 near halftime. The Pioneer defense stopped Ashland on 3rd down to force a punt. A Pioneer fumble inside the 10 yard line allowed Ashland to recover it and score a few plays later.

Coach Huffman states, "That was a major turning point in the game. Instead of going in at half only down 10-7, we were down 17-7. That killed our momentum."

Then came the rain. A two-and-a-half-hour rain delay followed, with many fans sticking it out in their cars and in the school. Once the game continued, it picked up right where it left off. In the end, Ashland won 23-7.

The Sept. 9 game versus Roncalli came down to the last two seconds. Back and forth from start to finish, the Pioneers had a block in the back penalty that brought back a long touchdown run by James Rathjen. In the end, Roncalli's kicker came through in the clutch. He made a field goal with two seconds left, giving them the win 24-21.

The Pioneers hit the road on Sept. 16 to play Madison, earning their first win of the season. They left Madison with a 16-10 victory.

We followed our success with another win for the Homecoming game on Sept. 23. The Pioneers beat the Arlington Eagles 12-7.

The Pioneers' 2-2 record shows the team's potential to have a successful season.

"We have a chance to do some really good things. There are a lot of good players on this team and if we keep a positive mental outlook, then we could have a great season," says Coach Huffman.



comic courtesy of www.fascinationplace.com

Record boards showcase successes

by Brooke Ohrt

Staff Writer

The high school gymnasium received a new look for 2011 by adding two new record boards displaying the records for softball, basketball, football, golf, cross country, volleyball and baseball.

On the east side of the gym, people can now see the records held for seven sports. Thanks to the Booster Club, Mr. Wemhoff and Mr. Mink, Fort Calhoun was able to complete the two-day project to recognize these other athletes. But why weren't they up in the first place?

"It's always been a question when I was Athletic Director," said Mr. Green, "and after enough discussion, we just decided to get it."

Stephenie Dale, senior, is one record

holder for Fort Calhoun Softball. When she saw her name next to the RBI record, she was surprised. Not only was she surprised to hold a record, but her name was spelled wrong, too.

"I didn't know I held the record," said Dale, "but it does make me mad that my name was spelled wrong. Mr. Wemhoff said they are going to order a new one with my name spelled correctly."

The athletes who are now recognized are very proud of their accomplishments. Most of the students who are on the board who still attend school weren't even aware that they held a record.

"I think this is a very good thing," Mr. Wemhoff said. "It's something we really needed, and they turned out to look very good."

We Ask, You Tell

If you had \$1 million, what would you spend it on?



"A new car and A LOT of clothes"

-Abby Hillmer, freshman



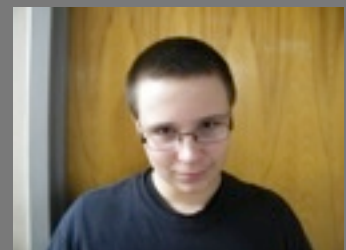
"Bugatti Veyron"

-Zach Thalman, sophomore



"Plastic surgery"

-Maddie Westergard, junior



"The Twinkie Company"

-Kiefer Nelson, senior